

## Message Text

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ACTION STR-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00  
NSCE-00 USIE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00  
DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03  
LAB-04 NSAE-00 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00  
PRS-01 SP-02 FEAEE-00 OMB-01 /089 W  
-----078193 131704Z /47

O R 131623Z SEP 77  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1044  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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USMTN

USEEC

PASS STR FOR ACTION

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETRD, MTN, EC  
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH VISCOUNT DAVIGNON, EC COMMISSIONER

1. THIS CABLE REPORTS ON A MEETING WITH EC COMMISSIONER  
DAVIGNON, ATTENDED BY AMBASSADORS MCDONALD AND HINTON, AND  
WILLIAM CULBERT, ON SEPTEMBER 12, 1977.

2. IN A SOMEWHAT ABBREVIATED FORMAT THE MAIN POINTS  
DISCUSSED WITH SIR ROY DENMAN CONCERNING THE U.S.  
POSITION WERE OUTLINED TO DAVIGNON LATER THAT DAY. THE  
MEETING WAS QUITE CORDIAL, OPEN AND RELATIVELY ENCOURAGING.  
ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS HE SAID THAT THE COMMISSION  
WELCOMED AMBASSADOR STRAUSS' VISIT, BELIEVED WE SHOULD  
PROCEED ON THE OVERALL TIMETABLE AGREED UPON AND SHOULD  
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BE ABLE TO COME TO AGREEMENT ON THE NEXT STEP.

3. HE WAS CLEARLY INTERESTED IN THE U.S. IDEA OF NO-NET  
EXCEPTIONS AND VERY ATTENTIVE TO THE CONCEPT OF LINKAGE  
IN DEGREE OF HARMONIZATION WITH OVERALL LEVEL OF TARIFF  
CUT. HE WAS CLEARLY IN FAVOR OF PROVIDING LATER  
FLEXIBILITY BY ANNOUNCING AT THE OUTSET OUR INTENTION

TO STAGE THE APPLICATION OF WHATEVER TARIFF REDUCTIONS ARE LATER AGREED WITH A VIEW TOWARD AVOIDING DISRUPTIONS AND DISLOCATIONS, AND FURTHER COMPLICATING NEAR-TERM THE ALREADY DIFFICULT ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES FACED BY EVERYONE. HE REPEATED THAT AS LONG AS WE LEAVE OURSELVES ENOUGH FLEXIBILITY AT THE OUTSET, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO AGREE ON TARIFF LEVELS. REPEATEDLY, HE WENT BACK TO THE ISSUE OF STAGING, APPARENTLY SEEING THIS AS A POSSIBLE AVENUE FOR ACCOMMODATING MORE AGGRESSIVE U.S. REDUCTIONS. HE RESPONDED ALSO WITH INTEREST TO THE POINT THAT THE TARIFF FORMULA MIGHT BE ANOTHER POSSIBLE WAY TO ENCOURAGE INTERNAL EC INDUSTRIAL RESTRUCTURING AWAY FROM LESS PROMISING TO MORE DYNAMIC AREAS FOR FUTURE GROWTH.

4. BECAUSE OF HIS INDUSTRY CONCERNS, HE WAS ALSO QUITE ATTENTIVE TO McDONALD'S ARGUMENTS ON THE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON CAPITAL INVESTMENTS THAT THE SIGNAL OF A LOW TARIFF CUT WOULD COMMUNICATE. HE ALSO APPEARED APPRECIATIVE AND RECEPTIVE FURTHER TO THE IDEA THAT WE WOULD CAREFULLY SEARCH OUR SCHEDULES IN AN ATTEMPT TO FIND SEVERAL IMPORTANT AREAS THAT, WHILE POLITICALLY TOLERABLE IN THE U.S., WOULD CLEARLY PROVIDE FUTURE EC TRADE EXPANSION OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP BUILD EUROPEAN PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR NEGOTIATING PROGRESS.

5. McDONALD SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED THE CONCERN OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AMBASSADOR STRAUSS TO MEET THE OCTOBER DEADLINE. HE DID NOT REACT TO THE MENTION OF THIS DATE (ALTHOUGH THE EC HAS NOT PUBLICLY ACCEPTED THIS OR OUR OTHER SUBDATES WITHIN THE OVERALL PACKAGE TO BE COMPLETED BY JANUARY 15.

6. SIMILAR PREPARATORY DISCUSSIONS COULD NOT BE ARRANGED WITH COMMISSIONERS HAERKAMP AND GUNDELACH SINCE BOTH WERE AWAY FROM BRUSSELS. McDONALD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRADE, NEGOTIATIONS, MEETINGS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 13-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977GENEVA07791  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Format:** TEL  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION STR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEETING WITH VISCOUNT DAVIGNON, EC COMMISSIONER  
**TAGS:** ETRD, US, EEC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
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